Civil War and Reconstruction Literature

Required Texts:
Ambrose Bierce, *Civil War Stories*
Stephen Crane, *Red Badge of Courage*
Margaret Mitchell, *Gone with the Wind*
Charles Frazier, *Cold Mountain*

Readings on class ernes account

Sept. 1 W Introduction

6 M *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, selections
8 W Thoreau, “A Plea for Captain John Brown”
Frederick Douglass, “John Brown” and “John Brown Not Crazy”

13 M John Brown, Statements to the Court and Correspondence,
Lydia Maria Child and Governor Wise, correspondence
Herman Melville, “The Portent”
15 W Abraham Lincoln, First Inaugural Address; Jefferson Davis, Inaugural Address

20 M Melville, “The March into Virginia” “Shiloh,” **Essay 1 due in class**
22 W Dickinson, “It feels a shame to be Alive”; Melville, “Stonewall Jackson,” Sidney
Lanier, “The Dying Words of Stonewall Jackson”; Lanier, “Song of the
Chattahoochee”

27 M Lincoln, “Gettysburg Address”; Civil War photographs
29 W Mary Chestnut, *Civil War Diary*, selections

Oct. 4 M Louisa May Alcott, *Hospital Sketches*, selections; Walt Whitman, *Specimen Days*,
selections
6 W Ulysses S. Grant, Memoirs, “The Surrender at Appomattox”; Robert E. Lee, Farewell;
Melville, “The Surrender at Appomattox”

11 M No Classes, Columbus Day
13 W Abraham Lincoln, Second Inaugural Address
Walt Whitman, “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom’d”; Frederick Douglass, “Our Martyred President”

18 M Thomas Nelson Page, “Marse Chan,” “Meh Lady”
20 W Sarah Jane Foster, *Teacher of the Freedmen*, selected letters;
John R. Lynch, “Civil Rights and Social Equality”;
Frances W. Harper, selected readings;  
Frederick Douglass, “The Supreme Court Decision”

25 M  Joel Chandler Harris, “The Wonderful Tar Baby Story” and  
“Mr. Rabbit Grossly Deceives Mr. Fox

27 W  **Essay 2 due in class.** Ambrose Bierce, “One of the Missing,” “Incident at Owl Creek Bridge,” “Chickamauga”

Nov.  1 M  Bierce, “A Horseman in the Sky,” “George Thurston”
3 W  Stephen Crane, *Red Badge of Courage*, Chapter 1- Chapter 10

8 M  *Red Badge of Courage*, Chapter 11 - conclusion
10 W  *Gone with the Wind*, chapters 1 – 16 (1-283)

15 M  Margaret Mitchell, *Gone With the Wind*, chapters 17 – 39 (284-695), Reading Quiz
17 W  *Gone With the Wind*, chapter 40 – end (695-1024), Reading Quiz
Film Screening, *Gone with the Wind* (1939)

22 M  Charles Frazier, *Cold Mountain*, “the shadow of a crow” - “verbs, all of them tiring”

Thanksgiving Break

29 M  *Cold Mountain*, “ like any other thing a gift” – “a satisfied mind”
Dec.  1 W  *Cold Mountain*, “vow to bear” – “epilogue”
Film screening, *Cold Mountain* (2003)

6 M  Conclusion; **Essay 3 due**

Study Break begins

**Final Exam, due date to be announced**

Grades: Essay 1 = 15%; Essay 2 = 20%; Essay 3 = 25%; Final Exam = 25%; Participation = 15%  
(including weekly responses)

**Class Policies:**
- Be prepared for a few changes to the syllabus as we see how the course evolves.
- Weekly responses. I will grade these short, informal, but nevertheless thoughtful, responses with the following scale: Excellent; Very Good; Good; OK, or not OK. Keep your graded responses in a folder. At the end of the semester you will pass in that folder to which I will then give an overall grade.
- Exercises and Reading Quizzes: I can accept exercises only in class on the day they are due. If you miss a class when I collect these, or when I give a quiz, you will receive a zero for that particular assignment. I will however drop one of these grades before determining your final grade for that work.
• Plagiarism: Plagiarism means presenting other people’s ideas or words as your own. If you summarize, paraphrase, or use language from another source you must provide the proper citation. If you do not quote the exact words, you must recast the sentences entirely in your own words; you may not even follow the original pattern or syntax of the sentence. We will go over this in class but you are responsible for making sure you fully understand and abide by this code of academic honesty. Any essay caught plagiarizing any amount of material will receive an F.

• Late papers: If you do not submit your essay on the day it is due, you will need to get a note from your Class Dean to explain why it is late. If you do not come to class on the day your essay is due, then your essay will be counted late. If you do come to class but don’t have your essay then you will have until 4 p.m. of that day to get it to me and it will not be counted late. Late essays are penalized 1/3 of a grade for each day they are late, including weekends. So Friday’s A- is Monday’s B-.